

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A piezoelectric oscillator comprising:

a piezoelectric element to be excited at a predetermined  
5 frequency; and

an ECL circuit for exciting said piezoelectric element by  
supplying current to said piezoelectric element;

wherein:

a non-inverted output terminal of said ECL circuit is grounded  
10 via a capacitor, and is connected to a non-inverting input terminal  
of said ECL circuit via series-connected capacitors;

said non-inverting input terminal of said ECL circuit is  
connected via a resistor to an inverting input terminal of said  
ECL circuit, and is grounded via a capacitor; and

15 the connection point of said series-connected capacitors is  
grounded via said piezoelectric element and a frequency control  
element.

2. A piezoelectric oscillator comprising:

20 a piezoelectric element to be excited at a predetermined  
frequency; and

an ECL circuit for exciting said piezoelectric element by  
supplying current to said piezoelectric element;

wherein:

25 an inverted output terminal of said ECL circuit is grounded  
via a capacitor, and is connected to an inverting input terminal  
of said ECL circuit via a capacitor;

said inverting input terminal of said ECL circuit is connected via a resistor to a non-inverting input terminal of said ECL circuit, and is grounded via a capacitor; and

said inverting input terminal of said ECL circuit is grounded  
5 via said piezoelectric element and a frequency control element.

3. The piezoelectric oscillator of claim 1, wherein said series-connected capacitors, which are connected to the non-inverting and inverting input terminals of said ECL circuit,  
10 respectively, are each to set a negative resistance value of said piezoelectric oscillator.